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AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

PAGO PAGO, AMERICAN SAMOA 96799

In reply refer to:

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

December 24, 1991

Serial: 496

Norman L. Lovelace, Chief
Office of Pacific Island and
Native American Programs
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Norm:

In order to coordinate and expedite processing of the mixing zone and NPDES permits, I would like to provide a status report on the mixing zone permit. The Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) met on November 27, 1991 to consider the canneries' application for a mixing zone in Pago Pago Harbor. At that time, the mixing zone was approved including the zone of initial dilution for ammonia. The EQC requested certain conditions for the mixing zone permit and an opportunity to review the final permit before issuance.

A draft mixing zone permit has been completed, but due to Hurricane Val and travel schedules of the EQC, review of the permit has not taken place. The mixing zone and NPDES permits should contain the same ambient monitoring program, and this has not yet been finalized. Also, I understand your office has some questions on the zone of initial dilution for ammonia. Both these issues should be resolved prior to completion of the final mixing zone permit.

As the mixing zone application has undergone the public review procedure and been approved by the EQC, issuance of the draft NPDES permits should proceed. I and my staff would like the opportunity to see the draft NPDES permits for the canneries prior to the start of the public review period. The final mixing zone permit should reflect any relevant changes to the final NPDES permits as a result of public comment, thus final issuance of the mixing zone permit should coincide with the final NPDES permits. Please let us know if this procedure is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Pati Faiai, Director

cc: Pat Young, USEPA Region 9
Doug Liden, USEPA Region 9
ASEPA Env. Coord.,